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PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Case No. 96-223-ZZ)

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

Tamburini et al.)
Serial No. 09/974,026) Examiner: Not yet assigned
Filed: October 10, 2001) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
Title Human Bikunin)

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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ORIGINALLY FILED

In regard to the above identified application:

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- a. Preliminary Amendment; and
- b. Return Receipt Postcard

2. With respect to additional fees:

No additional fee is required.

3. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No.13-2490.
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March, 2002.

By : Stephen H. Docter
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Ref. No. 96-223-ZZ)

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Tamburini et al.) Examiner: not yet assigned
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For: Human Bikumin)

)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

The applicants request that the Patent Office enter the following preliminary amendment prior to the first Office Action.

Amendments

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-11 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein.

Please add new claims 12-17, as shown in the Clean Version of the Pending Claims (Appendix A).